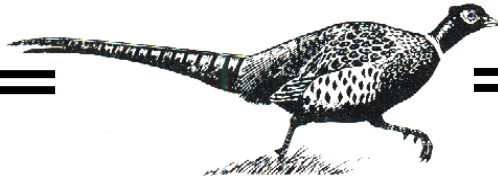




FISH AND GAME NEWS RELEASE

(559) 243-4005
extension 132 or 133

THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
1234 EAST SHAW AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93710



W. E. Loudermilk,
Regional Manager

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2002

Fall 2002 Family Pheasant Hunts

Twenty San Joaquin Valley family pheasant hunting opportunities are being offered by the Department of Fish and Game through its Game Bird Heritage Program. These hunts are made possible through the purchase of an Upland Game Bird Stamp by hunters. Providing hunter opportunity and hunter access is a major goal of the Game Bird Heritage Program. Up to four family members may apply as a party. When applying for the hunts, you must indicate the family member(s) in your party. See instructions under "How To Apply."

The hunts will be held near the towns of Modesto, Gustine, Merced, Chowchilla, San Joaquin, Kettleman City, Stevinson, Alpaugh and Bakersfield. All of the hunts are in cooperation with private landowners with the exception of the Merced hunt, which will be held on the City of Merced property, and the Gustine hunt, which will be held on the Department's China Island Wildlife Area. The Stanislaus, Madera, Fresno and Kern County fish and game fine committees are also supporting the hunts by purchasing pheasants through the disbursement of fine monies collected from fish and game violators. Most of the hunts are also supported by local sportsmen's organizations. These clubs include the Merced Fish and Game Club, Inc. (Stevinson), Ducks Unlimited-Madera Chapter (Chowchilla), National Wild Turkey Federation (San Joaquin), Avenal Gun Club (Kettleman City), Exeter Sportsmen's Association (Alpaugh), and the Kern County Fish and Game Protective Association (Bakersfield). Two hunts are scheduled per day, from 8:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to sunset. Male ring-necked pheasants will be released prior to each hunt.

Successful applicants and their guest(s) (except junior license holders) must pay a \$13.00 entry fee (waived at the Gustine hunt in lieu of a two-day or annual hunting area pass). **Do not** send the \$13.00 fee with your application, it will be collected when you check in at the hunt. An Upland Game Bird Stamp is required of all hunters, **except** junior license holders. Hunters under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older).

How To Apply

Hunters will be selected by a random computerized drawing. Applications may include up to four family members applying as a party, but may not include more than two adults and/or two junior hunters. When applying for the hunts, provide the following information for **yourself and any other family hunter(s)**: ① name, ② address, ③ daytime and evening telephone numbers, ④ 2002-2003 hunting license number and ⑤ hunt number, location (e.g. [H] Merced), date and hunt period in order of preference. Hunters may apply only **once** for each hunt. Applying for the same hunt more than **once** will disqualify you from the drawing.

(OVER)

Hunters will be selected for **only one** hunt. This is to provide more hunters with the opportunity to participate in these special hunts. Please make your selections **carefully**. Changes **cannot** be made after the drawing. Applications must be returned to:

Game Bird Heritage Family Pheasant Hunts
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710

Applications must be received by Friday, October 25, 2002, at 5:00 p.m. to be eligible for the drawing. **Only successful applicants will be notified** with instructions and a map to the hunt area. It is your responsibility to notify other family member(s) of being successful in the drawing. For additional information on any of the hunts or for an application, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Game Bird Heritage Program at (559) 243-4005, extension 132 or 133. The hunt numbers, locations, dates and hunt periods are as follows. List in order of preference on your application.

Hunt Number	Location	Date and Hunt Period	Quota
A	Modesto	Saturday, December 7, morning	50
B	Modesto	Saturday, December 7, afternoon	50
C	Gustine	Saturday, November 16, morning	50
D	Gustine	Saturday, November 16, afternoon	50
E	Merced	Saturday, November 23, morning	25
F	Merced	Saturday, November 23, afternoon	25
G	Merced	Sunday, November 24, morning	25
H	Merced	Sunday, November 24, afternoon	25
I	San Joaquin	Saturday, November 16, morning	50
J	San Joaquin	Saturday, November 16, afternoon	50
K	Kettleman City	Saturday, November 16, morning	50
L	Kettleman City	Saturday, November 16, afternoon	50
M	Chowchilla	Saturday, November 16, morning	50
N	Chowchilla	Saturday, November 16, afternoon	50
O	Stevinson	Saturday, November 23, morning	50
P	Stevinson	Saturday, November 23, afternoon	50
Q	Alpaugh	Saturday, November 16, morning	50
R	Alpaugh	Saturday, November 16, afternoon	50
S	Bakersfield	Saturday, November 16, morning	50
T	Bakersfield	Saturday, November 16, afternoon	50

This and additional information can be found by visiting the Department's web page at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov>.

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